

Clarendon County Regular Council Meeting

Monday, October 14, 2019

6:00 PM

Clarendon County Council

Those in attendance:

Chairman Dwight L. Stewart, Jr.
Councilman Billy G. Richardson
Councilman Benton Blakely
Clerk to Council, Dorothy M. Levy

Vice Chairman W.J. Frierson
Councilman A.C. English
County Administrator, David W. Epperson

Press in attendance: The Manning Times, Jake McElveen

Others in attendance included:

Nehemiah Conyers James L. Conyers Willie Briggs Robert Pegram Robert McFadden

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm with opening comments. He thanked everyone for their condolences for the loss of his son, Drew. Councilman Richardson led the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited in unison.

1. Approval of the Agenda

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the agenda for October 14, 2019.

2. Approval of Minutes

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the council meeting minutes for the Regular Council Meeting, which was held on Monday, September 9, 2019.

3. Board Appointment

On motion by Councilman Richardson and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to re-appoint Ms. Sylvia Clark to the Clarendon County Archives Advisory Commission Board to serve another 4-year term.

4. Request to approve the following Schools Resource Officers (SRO) Agreement:

Administrator Epperson presented Council with four Agreements for School Resource Officers. He stated that the districts would reimburse the County on a quarterly basis for the costs associated with the salary, benefits, equipment, fuel and the use of the County issued vehicle of the SROs.

- a. **Clarendon School District One** – Three SROs (Summerton Early Childhood Center, St. Paul Elementary School, and Scott's Branch Middle-High School).
- b. **Clarendon School District Two** – Five SROs (Manning Early Childhood Center, Manning Primary School, Manning Elementary School, Manning Junior High School, and Manning High School).
- c. **Clarendon School District Three** – Two SROs (Walker-Gamble Elementary School and East Clarendon Middle-High School).
- d. **Central Carolina Technical College** – One SRO (Central Carolina Technical College-FE Dubose Campus).

5. Consideration to approve two (2) Right of Way Easements to Santee Electric Coop

Administrator Epperson presented Council with two (2) 30 ft. Right of Way Easements. He stated that the first 30 ft. easement would be located at the Well and Elevated Tank Location on Hwy. 260.

1. On motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to a 30 ft. easement to Santee Electric Coop located at the Well and Elevated Tank Location on Hwy. 260.

Administrator Epperson continued by stating that the second 30 ft. easement to Santee Electric Coop would be located on the Fire Station Property at Wyboo on Hwy. 260.

2. On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Vice Chairman Frierson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to a 30 ft. easement to Santee Electric Coop located on the Fire Station Property at Wyboo on Hwy. 260.
- Willie Briggs asked what is an Easement.
 - Administrator Epperson responded by stating that an easement is giving someone the right to use your property.

6. Ordinance 2019-07

Administrator Epperson presented Council with Ordinance 2019-07 - An Ordinance – To Accept the Transfer of Authority for the Conduct of Elections for the City of Manning to the Clarendon County Voters Registration and Election Commission. He continued by stating that it was discussed by the Voters Registration and Election Commission and they do not have a problem with this Ordinance.

On motion by Councilman English and Seconded by Councilman Richardson, Council voted Unanimous Approval to the First Reading of Ordinance 2019-07 - An Ordinance – To Accept the Transfer of Authority for the Conduct of Elections for the City of Manning to the Clarendon County Voters Registration and Election Commission.

- Robert McFadden asked what was the reason for the change.
- Administrator Epperson replied by stating that he was not included in the discussion.
- Robert McFadden asked who would incur the cost of the election.
- Administrator Epperson replied by stating that the County would incur the cost upfront and then the county would be reimbursed by the State Election Commission.

7. Financial Report

Administrator Epperson presented the financials to County, in the absent of Lynden Anthony, Controller:

- **The General Fund** had Expenditures of \$1,545,163 and Revenue figures were not available as of September 30, 2019.
- **Weldon Auditorium** had Revenue of \$2,954 for the month ending September 30, 2019 and total Expenses were \$34,339. He stated that the Weldon Auditorium ended the month of September 2019 after transfers with a Zero balance.
- **Water and Sewer Department** had Revenue of \$223,474 for the month ending September 30, 2019 and total Expenses were \$187,453. He stated that after depreciation, Bond interest expense, and Interest Income, the Water and Sewer Department had Net Utility Loss of \$101,794.
- **The C-Fund Program** for the month of September 2019 had a Cash Balance of \$2,209,200 of which \$1,507,441 has been committed to remaining local paving projects, State Construction Projects in

Progress and State Proviso Funds. He stated that the C-Fund Program had an Uncommitted Balance of \$701,760 as of the end of September 2019.

8. Administrator's Report

Administrator Epperson began his report by giving Council an update on the following projects:

- **USDA Phase II** – Work is ongoing with substantial completion being targeted at the end of November.
- **Phase III Water Project** – Lines have been installed and approved by DHEC. Eagle Point customers have been hooked up to the new lines and are receiving water.
- **County Council Fire Department-(Wyboo Station)** – Work is continuing as planned. We plan on applying to the Department of Natural Resources to utilize funds available through its water recreation fund to assist with improvements to the existing landing area construction of a pier and the clearing of land adjacent to the water to improve public access to the in-pound area of the lake.
- **Capital Projects**
 - Landfill**
 - a. New expanded area and roads have been completed and are in use.
 - b. New scale house is in the process of being ordered.
 - c. The existing recycling center located adjacent to the landfill is in the process of being relocated to the old cardboard packing center site at the landfill.

Roofs

- a. Bids are in the process of being solicited for the roofing projects at Weldon Auditorium, Clarendon County Detention Center and DHEC building.
- b. The projects are being managed through US Communities a cooperative procurement agency.

Archives Building

- a. Work is scheduled to be started in November to repair the foundation of the building.
- b. Work is scheduled to last anywhere from 2-4 weeks.
- c. The building will be closed to the public during construction.
- d. All climate-controlled materials will be moved to an alternate climate-controlled location.
- e. The Director will be in an alternate location and available to answer questions.

Parking Lot (Administrative Building)

- a. Sealing and striping were completed on October 12th and 13th.

- **Recreation**

- a. **JC Britton Park**

- Bids are being solicited for improvements to the tennis court, walking trail, basketball courts and the installation of security cameras, lighting and fencing.

- b. **Walker Gamble Park**

- Bids are being solicited for improvements to the basketball court, new dugouts for the shared baseball field and security fencing and gates.

- c. **Summerton Park**

- Awaiting report on Phase I environmental study (if all is ok, property will be donated to County by owner).

- Demolition of existing building and park construction.

- Preliminary plans call for green space, playground equipment and covered shelter with restrooms, benches, trashcans and landscaping.

- **Clarendon County Fire Department (CCFD)**

- Community Risk Reduction (CRR) Program (installation of smoke detectors)

- Year to Date: CRR Events: 24, Event Participants: 2170, Smoke Alarm Locations: 132 and Smoke Alarms Installed: 531

- Our department will be pump testing all apparatus over the next couple of weeks. This is when we test the pumps to make sure they will flow the required gallons per minute. Each engine goes through a 4-part test. A capacity test, 75% capacity test, 50% capacity test, and a priming test.
- Three Battalion Chiefs have been hired (two in-house) they will start on October 21.
- CCFD responded to 146 incidents in September with 27 different incident types.
- **Grants**
 - The airport was recently awarded a FAA grant for the Airport Improvement Project. This will allow for the installation of wildlife fencing around the airport perimeter and additional security fencing at the airport entrance.
 - The grant award is \$336,087.00 for construction (90% of total construction cost (\$373,340.00)). SC and the County are responsible for 5% and \$166,000 for design work.
- **Misc**
 - ✓ Based on the County Population of 33,700 (provided by DHEC), it costs \$54.67 per person to Fund Solid Waste Collection and Disposal in Clarendon County.
 - Willie Briggs asked if that cost per person is a weekly cost.
 - Administrator Epperson replied by stating that it's an annual cost
 - Nehemiah Conyers asked if anything will be done in the Greenall Area to improve the area.
 - Administrator Epperson replied by stating that there is a fund available for that and we will see what is left and go back and see what we can do to provide better access to the public.
 - Robert McFadden asked what kind of shelter would be at the Summerton Park.
 - Administrator Epperson replied by stating that it would be an open shelter.
 - Robert McFadden stated that maybe we can put something at the park in reference to Briggs vs. Elliott.

9. Chairman's Report

Chairman Stewart began his report stating that he, Vice Chairman Frierson, and Administrator Epperson attended a meeting in September that was sponsored by the South Carolina Association of Counties.

10. Executive Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal Briefing on the Public Works Department.

On Motion by Councilman Blakely and Seconded by Councilman English, Council voted Unanimous Approval to go into Executive Session to discuss a Legal Briefing on the Public Works Department. The Executive Session began at 6:41 pm.

11. Open Session

Chairman Stewart asked for a motion to come out of Executive Session and back into Open Session.

On Motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to come out of Executive Session and back into open session. The Executive Session ended at 7:26 pm.

Chairman Stewart stated that in Executive Session they received a Legal Briefing on the Public Works Department and it was information only and no action would be taken.

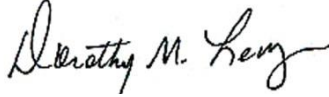
12. Adjournment

Chairman Stewart stated that we have exhausted our agenda and he asked for a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting.

On motion by Vice Chairman Frierson and Seconded by Councilman Blakely, Council voted Unanimous Approval to adjourn the Council Meeting.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dorothy M. Levy
Clerk to Clarendon County Council, CCC

